

The PawPrint

SUMMER 2026 NEWSLETTER | HUMANESOCIETYOFKODIAK.ORG

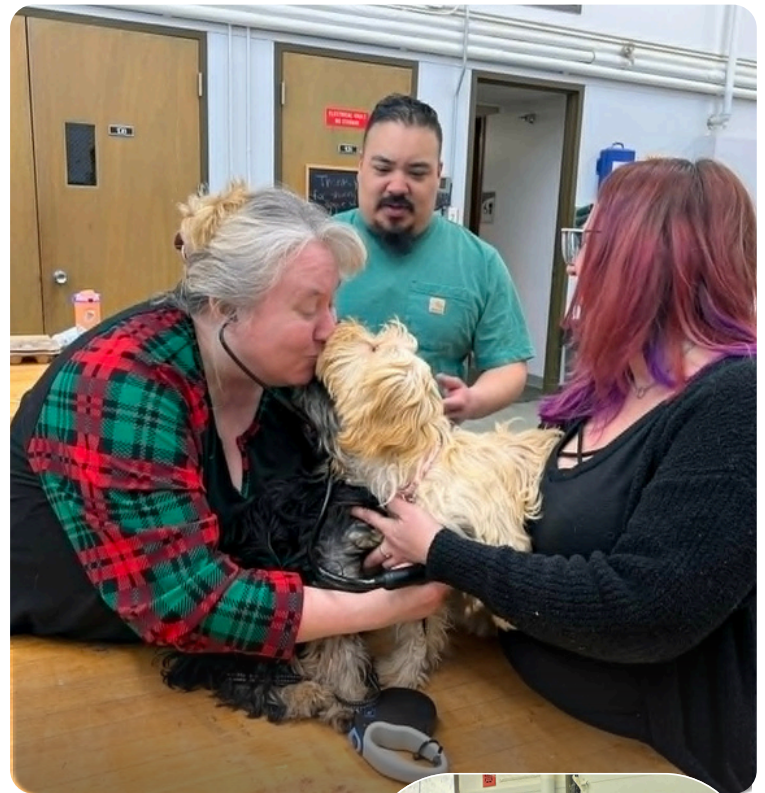


A Healthy Turnout: First Vaccine Clinic a Big Success

The Kodiak Pet Health Protection Vaccine Clinic marked a successful first event, bringing together community members and their pets for a day focused on health, prevention, and connection. Made possible through a generous grant from the Kodiak Community Foundation, the Kodiak Pet Health Protection Vaccine Clinic was delivered in partnership between the Kodiak Animal Shelter and Kodiak Veterinary Clinic. This collaboration allowed the team to provide essential vaccinations and support to local pet owners, improving access to preventative veterinary care across the community while ensuring the clinic ran efficiently and safely. Thanks to the strong collaboration and preparation, the clinic proceeded smoothly, with the exception of one notably "spicy" feline patient.

Throughout the day, staff and volunteers were especially encouraged to see many former shelter animals thriving in their homes, alongside meeting numerous new pets and their owners. The event not only supported animal health but also reinforced the strong sense of community and shared commitment to animal welfare in Kodiak.

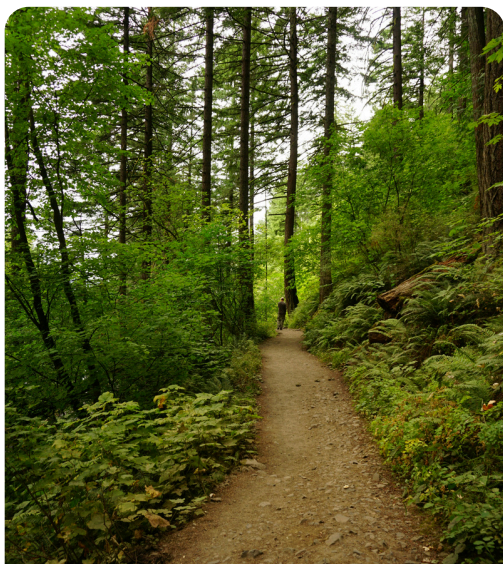
Following the success of this initial clinic, there is hope to offer the Kodiak Pet Health Protection Vaccine Clinic again in the future, continuing to expand access to vital veterinary services for local pets and their families.



Top: Nicole, manager at Kodiak Vet Clinic, holds Tweety while Dr. Smith checks her heart, earning a big kiss in the process. Right: Will Turner gets lots of snuggles from Dr. Smith

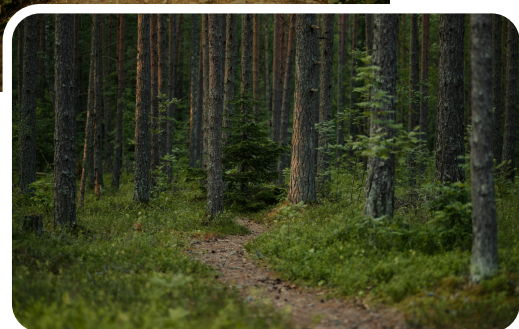


Trail Tips for Dogs on the Trails



Exploring Kodiak's beautiful trails with your dog is one of the best ways to enjoy the season - but a safe, respectful outing takes a little preparation. On Kodiak's trails, dogs should always be on a standard 6-foot leash to protect local wildlife and ensure positive encounters with other hikers. Not everyone is comfortable around dogs, and some pets may be reactive, so keeping your dog close helps avoid unwanted interactions.

Please remember to pack out all pet waste - even bagged waste - to keep our trails clean. When paths are narrow or busy, step aside onto durable surfaces and allow others to pass. Staying on marked trails also helps protect Kodiak's unique landscape and wildlife.



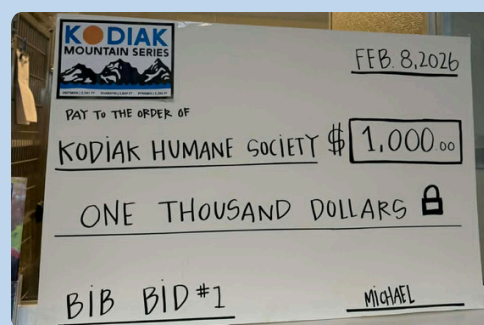
Before heading out, bring enough water for both you and your dog, and check paw pads for rough terrain. It's also important to confirm that dogs are allowed on the trail you plan to visit.

A simple way to keep it all in mind is the **B.A.R.K.** principles:

Bag your pet's waste, **A**lways leash your pet, **R**espect wildlife, and **K**now where you can go.

HSK Gains Support From Those Preparing To Gain Altitude

Humane Society of Kodiak was delighted to receive a generous check in February from the Kodiak Mountain Series. Runners registering for the 2nd annual Kodiak Mountain Series could choose to try to register with an auction bib. One hundred percent of each winning bid was donated to local nonprofits. Race organizer Michael Bach selected HSK as one of the receiving nonprofits.



The Kodiak Mountain Series is a three-day stage run featuring one mountain run each day. This year's event is June 18–20 and includes: Heitman, Sharatin and Pyramid Mountains. The race winners are determined by the lowest total time for all three mountains in Men's, Women's and Teams categories.

The series has drawn national attention among runners. Race proceeds support Island Trails Network.

GOOD LUCK to all Participants!





Kodiak Pet Idol 2026 Kicks off June 1st

Time to show off those camera skills, and more importantly, those adorable pets! Join the Humane Society of Kodiak's 2026 Kodiak Pet Idol Contest & Fundraiser. We invite all Kodiak residents to submit their best photos of their beloved animal companions, whether it's a cat, dog, guinea pig, goat, parrot, pony, or anything in between. The winning pet will be featured in our 2027 calendar and will receive a 3-month subscription to Meow Box, Bark Box, or Squawk Box (or a comparable prize for other types of pets).



Send Your Photos!

Photo Submission Dates:

June 1 – June 30, 2026

How to Submit:

- Email up to 5 photos per pet to kodiak.petidol@gmail.com
- Include your pet's name, age, and breed
- Photos must be in .jpg or .png format

Entry Donation:

- \$5 per image
- Pay via PayPal, mail to PO Box 8783, or stop by the shelter
- (Checks payable to Humane Society of Kodiak)

How It Works:

- Submit your photos and donation by June 30
- The Humane Society of Kodiak Board of Directors and Shelter Staff will select 36 finalists
- Public voting begins July 5, 2026 on Facebook, Instagram, and our website (yes, you can vote on all three!)
- The winner will be announced in early August on our website and Facebook page

Prizes:

- The winning pet will be featured in the 2027 calendar
- All top 12 finalists will receive a complimentary 2027 Pet Idol Calendar
- Calendars will be available for purchase in early November at the AAUW Bazaar.

Get those cameras ready, we can't wait to see your pets shine!

Pet Photography Tips from Murphy's Mom (Pam Foreman)



At some point, we all want to show off photos of Fifi and Fido to friends and family. Or maybe you want to enter some photos in the Pet Idol contest. Here are a few tips for making the most of your efforts, whether you are using your phone or a DSLR camera.

- First things first - clean your camera lenses!
- Change your camera settings to take the highest jpeg or png resolution possible for Pet Idol submission or printing.
- Light is the most important element of photography. Have light or sun at your back.
- To make sure your pet is the main thing in focus, tap their face on the phone screen to pop up a square or circle and adjust exposure from light to dark. That adjustment is very helpful if your pet is dark colored.
- Shoot in natural light if possible. If you are photographing indoors, try to use the light from a window rather than lamplight. The colors will be more natural.
- Get on the same level as your pet. Sit, squat, or lie on the ground or sit on a log or rock.
- If you are taking photos with your phone for the Pet Idol contest and calendar, turn your phone sideways for landscape mode.
- Watch out for distracting clutter in front of or behind your pet.
- Try using Portrait Mode or Lens Blur to blur the background.
- For active pets, have someone with you toss them a treat or a favorite toy while you snap the photo
- When taking photos of your pet in action, use the burst mode to take multiple photos in a quick sequence - you can pick your favorite one later. On a DSLR, use a fast shutter speed.

That's it! Oh, and Murphy would like me to remind everyone that the most important thing is to have fun!

Read the full article at: <https://tinyurl.com/hskphototips>

Humane Society of Kodiak Membership

Join or renew your membership today
and you will remain current until January 1, 2028!

SIMPLY COMPLETE THE FORM BELOW AND BRING TO THE SHELTER, OR SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW TO DO IT ONLINE

Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Membership Category & Annual Dues

- _____ \$20 Individual Membership
- _____ \$40 Family Membership
- _____ \$50 Business Membership
- _____ \$2 Child up to 13 years old
- _____ \$5 Child 13 – 18 years old

Lifetime Membership

- _____ Silver Paw - \$250 - \$499
- _____ Gold Paw - \$500 - \$749
- _____ Platinum Paw - \$750 - \$999
- _____ Diamond Paw - \$1000 +

VOLUNTEER?

YES! I am willing to help:

- _____ Foster Animals
- _____ Volunteer at the Animal Shelter
- _____ Help at Events

Newsletter preference: Mail _____ Email _____

Make your checks payable to:

Humane Society of Kodiak

PO Box 8783

Kodiak, AK 99615

Scan to sign up and pay online



The Humane Society of Kodiak (HSK) is not affiliated with the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) or any other national organization. HSK is a local, independent non-profit. Views of HSUS or other organizations do not reflect the views of the HSK.



Walking the Extra Mile: Celebrating Volunteer Mel LeVan

Mel has been a dedicated volunteer with us since 2023, and to say he's made an impact would be an understatement. He's out here walking our dogs five days a week - rain, shine, or classic Kodiak weather.

Between October 2023 - 2024 alone, Mel walked 20 different dogs a total of 221 times. That's 221 chances for our dogs to stretch their legs, get enrichment, and practice being out in the world, and it shows.

Mel doesn't just walk dogs and call it good. He takes photos and videos during his outings that we use to help showcase adoptable dogs, and he gives us incredibly helpful feedback on how they do in public, on leash, and with their overall personalities. That kind of real-world insight is huge when it comes to finding the right homes.

And in the best kind of plot twist...this past year, Mel made it official and adopted one of his favorite shelter dogs.

We're beyond grateful for the time, care, and consistency he brings to the shelter. Volunteers like Mel truly change the lives of our animals - one walk at a time.



Coming Soon
 Humane Society of Kodiak
Paw Jammin'
Online Auction

shop from home -
 in your *pawjamas* -
 to help shelter animals.

Get ready to shop from home
 In your pawjamas.

From art work to lodging and
 gift packages, there will be
 something for everyone.

Stay tuned for dates, sneak
 peeks, and ways to
 participate!

Coming September 2026

We're deeply grateful to the incredible organizations whose support makes a real difference in the lives of HSK'S shelter animals, and the pets in the Kodiak community.



To learn more about
 our life-saving
 programs, visit our website at
humanesocietyofkodiak.org

Physical Shelter
 2409 Mill Bay Rd
 Kodiak, AK 99615
 (907)486-8077
Mailing Address
 PO Box 8783
 Kodiak, AK 99615

HSK Board
humanesocietyofkodiak@gmail.com
Animal Shelter
kodiakanimalshelter@gmail.com
Shelter Manager
kodiaksheltermanager@gmail.com